

Message Text

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05790 201651Z

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

(PERIOD JUNE 14 THROUGH JUNE 19)

1. REPORTING EMPHASIZED NIGERIAN ISSUES INCLUDING PORT, PETROL, SHOOLS AND EXTENDED VISIT BY FORMER PM MACMILLAN, ALL MEDIA. EXTERNALLY, COVERAGE INCLUDED AFRICAN ISSUES, MIDEAST, INDIA, CIA AND KENNEDY BROTHERS AND FIRST APOLLO-SOYUZ ARTICLE (PAGE 3 EXPRESS JUNE 18) OF SOVIET ORIGIN WITH PHOTO STAFFORD AT COSMONAUT CENTER 1974. CONCLUSION: "NOT MANY DAYS ARE LEFT BEFORE THE SPACE HANDSHAKE WHICH WILL SYMBOLIZE THE STRIVING OF THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO GREAT POWERS, FOR THE EXTENSION OF COOPERATION IN THE NAME OF CONSOLIDATING PEACE ON EARTH."

2. SUNDAY RENAISSANCE (JUNE 15) GAVE FULL PAGE TO ARTICLE BY YUGOSLAV NILA KUZMANICESVETE WITH HEAD "RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED WESTERN NATIONS AND THE USA" PAGE 6. SAID PROCESS OF DISINTEGRATION IN WESTERN SOCIETY SOUNDED ALARM TO US WHICH RESPONDED WITH ENERGY PROPOSALS AND KISSINGER'S THREAT OF FORCE. "... IN AN EXTREMELY DELICATE SITUATION AND IN A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SEGMENT OF THE INTERESTS OF THE INDUSTRIALLY DEVELOPED WESTERN WORLD, THE USA IS SUCCESSFULLY REVITALIZING ITS LEADING ROLE."
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05790 201651Z

EM NEW NIGERIAN GAVE FULL PAGE INSIDE EXCERPS JUNE 17-18 EDITIONS TEXT OF LECTURE BY P.F. WILMOT AT ABY HEADED "OPEC AND WESTERN POWERS." CONFRONTATION WAS THE THEME: CRISIS THE STRAW MAN. "THE TENDENCY IN THE OPEC AS WELL AS IN THE

OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES IS TO ACCEPT UNCRITICALLY THE REALITY OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE WEST. BUT A BRIEF LOOK AT EASILY OBTAINABLE STATISTICS SHOWS THAT WHAT IS CONSIDERED A CRISIS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE WEST IS STILL BEYOND THE WILDEST DREAMS OF THE CITIZENS OF THE OPEC NATIONS." PIECE DECLARED OPEC CONTROLS OVER 70 PERCENT OF FREE WORLD OIL PRODUCTION AND SHOULD SHOW NO RESTRAINT IN EXERCISE OF ITS POWER: SHOULD WITHHOLD OIL UNTIL OPEC COUNTRIES GET INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY THEY REQUIRE.

4. NIGERIAN TRIBUNE IN FRONT PAGE COMMENT JUNE 18 DECLARED ITSELF AGAINST A RISE IN OIL PRICES, RECOUNTED PRICE BOOST FOR NIGERIA FROM DOLS 3.56 PER BARREL IN JANUARY TO DOLS 44.69 12 MONTHS LATER. WITH HIGH PRICES CAME LOWER PRODUCTION WHICH AFFECTED NEWER OIL SOURCE COUNTRIES. ..."COUNTRIES LIKE NIGERIA, WHO ARE NEWCOMERS WHO HAVE EMBARKED ON MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS BASED ON OIL INCOME WOULD BE HEADING FOR DISASTER. THEIR WHOLE ECONOMY COULD COLLAPSE IF THEIR REVENUE PROJECTIONS ARE SERIOUSLY FALSIFIED.... THE BEST INTEREST OF OPEC MEMBERS WILL THEREFORE BE BETTER SERVED BY KEEPING OIL PRICES AT THEIR PRESENT LEVEL IN SDR TERMS AFTER EXPIRATION OF THE CURRENT FREEZE."

5. NIGERIAN OBSERVER JUNE 16 WORLD OUTLOOK COLUMN (PAGE 5) DISCUSSED "WESTERN POWERS AND NAMIBIA" AND DECRIED WESTERN TACTICS TO PROVIDE TIME FOR POLITICAL PRESSURE WHICH PROVED INEFFECTIVE OR 39 YEARS. "ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, THE THREE VETO-BEARING WESTERN POWERS HAVE DECLARED THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND THE STRATEGIC MILITARY IMPORTANCE OF THE SEA ROUTE AROUND SOUTH AFRICA, THEY WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA....OUR ANSWER TO THE WESTERN BLUFF SHOULD NOT BE ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT ANOTHER SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION BUT RESORT TO FORCE--THE LANGUAGE THE COLONIALISTS AND THE MODERN ECONOMIC COLONIALISTS UNDERSTAND."

6. FULL FORMAT DAILY EXPRESS JUNE 19 HAD PAGE 3 HALF-COLUMN LONG UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 05790 201651Z

WITH JUMP UNSIGNED PURPORTED LETTER TO EDITOR EXPOSING "TRUTH ABOUT US AFRICAN POLICY." INCLUDES US INCREASED SUPPORT FOR VORSTER REGIME DEMONSTRATED BY MILITARY COLLABORATION, APPOINTMENT OF "HAWKISH CAREER DIPLOMAT WILLIAM BOWDLER" TO WRIA AND DAVIS. HOLDS LATTER CULPABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION KAUNDA LETTER IN CONCERT WITH CIA AND SIGHTS MOVE OF US TO SECRET DIPLOMACY WITH OBJECTIVE "TO RETAIN BY ANY MEANS, THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AS AN OBJECT OF HIDEOUS EXPLOITATION BY US MONOPOLIES AND TO AVERT THE COLLAPSE OF RACIALIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA -- THE LAST BULWARK OF IMPERIALISM ON THE AFRICAN SOIL."

7. LEAD ARTICLE OF TIMES INTERNATIONAL JUNE 16 WAS "THE TRAGEDY OF NAMIBIA" (PAGE 3). FULL PAGE "SPECIAL REPORT" ASSAILED US

ON UNSC NAMIBIA VOTE UNDER IRONIC CUT LINE "CHAMPION OF DEMOCRACY," CHARGED HYPROCRISY IN STATEMENTS BY AMBASSADOR SCALI: DECLARED A "BIG LIE" HIS STATEMENT OF LONGTERM EFFORTS US FOR UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION NAMIBIA AS SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL ISSUE. QUOTES "HIGHLY RESPECTED AFRICAN JOURNALIST" AS DECLARING "THE UNITED STATES HAS AN AIR AND NAVAL BASE AND A NASA TRACKING STATION IN SOUTH AFRICA."

8. TIMES INTERNATIONAL US SECTION PAGE 5 DESCRIBED "THE UGLY AMERICAN" AS THE US BUSINESSMAN DEEP IN INTERNATIONAL BRIBE OFFERS. ASIA SECTION FOLLOWING PAGE ANALYSED NORTH KOREAN EFFORT TOWARD UNIFICATION. "THE SHOCK WAVES OF THE SPECTACULAR COMMUNIST VICTORY IN INDOCHINA, WHICH HAD RIPPLED THROUGH SOUTHEAST ASIA, HAVE AGAIN HIT ANOTHER AMERICAN ALLY IN ASIA--SOUTH KOREA. "THAT LEAD LED TO CONCLUSION NORTH KOREANS MAY BE WILLING TO GO TO WAR AGAIN TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. RECALLS NORTH KOREAN FAILURE IN EARLY FIFTIES AND RECENT TUNNELS IN DEMILITARIZED ZONE: THEN STATED: "NORTH KOREANS MAY HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO THE MILITARY OPTION TO EFFECT REUNIFICATION BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT WASHINGTON WOULD ABANDON SOUTH KOREA JUST AS IT DID SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA." HEDGES

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